**English 1200**

**Annotated Bibliography Task Sheet**

**WHAT:**

Create a 4-page annotated bibliography of at least 10 credible, scholarly sources tied to a central research question that you have developed. ***At least 2*** of these sources should be chapters from books (1 physical book and one e-book, and not reference works such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, or how-to guides), ***at least 6*** should be articles from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals, and ***at least 2*** can be from the following list: a newspaper or magazine article or educational and government reports.

**WHY:**

This process of collecting and annotating research is to prepare you for writing an academic research paper later in the semester.

The sources included in this annotated bibliography should help you 1. Define and expand upon a central research question and 2. Become a research-reading boss! We will work to collect, compile, and closely read sources for this assignment.

This assignment should help you become more familiar with scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles. Here is a brief definition for future reference☺

Peer Review is a process that journals use to ensure the articles they publish represent the best scholarship currently available. When an article is submitted to a peer-reviewed journal, the editors send it out to other scholars in the same field (the author's peers) to get their opinion on the quality of the scholarship, its relevance to the field, its appropriateness for the journal, etc.

Periodicals that don't use peer review (*Time, Cosmo, Salon*) rely on the judgment of its editors whether an article is accurate, not on experts in that topic. That's why you can't count on them for solid, scientific scholarship.

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/lsl/help/modules/peer.html

Scholarly peer review (also known as refereeing) is the process of subjecting an author's scholarly work, research, or ideas to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the same field, before a paper describing this work is published in a journal. The work may a) be accepted, b) considered acceptable with revisions, or c) rejected. Peer review requires a community of experts in a given (and often narrowly defined) field, who are qualified and able to perform impartial review. Impartial review, especially of work in less narrowly defined or inter-disciplinary fields, may be difficult to accomplish...

**HOW:**

Your annotated bibliography needs to list your central research question at the very beginning (top of the page) and then it needs to contain the following for EACH SOURCE:

1. A **CITATION** of the source (in MLA format)
2. **1 short PARAGRAPH** analyzing the background of the source. Background info needs to include:

**PUBLICATION INFO**: What is the publication? How do you know it’s credible? What do you know about the publication and how does this info shape how you read and value the source?

**AUTHOR INFO**: Who is the author and what is his or her specific background? What kind of credibility does the author have – is he or she a scholar, a teacher, a journalist, or a community advocate? Does he or she actually belong to the community that is being written about?

1. **1 PARAGRAPH** providing a brief overview or synopsis of the article. ***You will not necessarily be reading all 10 sources in depth at this point.*** Just work on gathering this preliminary overview info from the title, abstract, and a brief skim-through.
2. **1 PARAGRAPH** explaining how the source could be used to answer your central research question.

TIP: You can select many items then go through them all at once, deleting those which, upon closer scrutiny, don’t really pass the test for relevance. Alternatively, you can scrutinize them as you go. Either way, you are encouraged to create an account within the database if, as EBSCOhost’s Academic Search Premier database allows you to, so that you can save the results returned by a search and even an entire search along with its search criteria. Saving search criteria can save you much time when, say, you are interrupted and have to return the next day.

The screen for creating an EBSCO account (into which you can save articles and even entire searches) is not obvious, so here are the steps to find it:

1. From the Libraries tab in Pipeline, click on “Databases” and then scroll down until you see “Academic Search Premier.” Click on that link.
2. Up in the blue banner, click on “Sign in.”
3. On the next screen, you will see a small link, “Create a new account.” Don’t forget to sign in each time you log-in to the database.